



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP - 8 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

REED SMITH LLP  
P.O. BOX 488  
PITTSBURGH PA 15230-0488

In re Application of :  
West et al. : PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL  
Serial No.: 10/551,202 :  
Filed: September 27, 2005 :  
Attorney Docket No.: 05-221-US :

This is in response to applicants' petition filed June 29, 2006, to make the above-identified application special under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(d).

Applicants have satisfied the provisions set forth in M.P.E.P. 708.02, VIII. (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E). The \$130.00 petition fee as required by 37 CFR 1.17(h) was received. Therefore, the petition is **GRANTED**.

**The application will be forwarded the examiner for action on the merits commensurate with this decision.**

Should there be any questions with regard to this letter please contact Marianne C. Seidel by letter addressed to the Director, Technology Center 1600, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or by telephone at 571-272-0584 or by facsimile transmission at the general Office facsimile number, (703) 872-9306.

Marianne C. Seidel  
Special Program Examiner  
Technology Center 1600